

State of North Carolina



MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEEK

2008

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, this year's hurricane forecast shows an increase in activity with an above normal number of major hurricanes expected in the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, hurricanes and tropical storms bring life threatening hazards of destructive winds, tornados, storm surges, flooding and landslides to the state; and

WHEREAS, citizens should prepare their personal emergency supply kit to use at home or during an evacuation, and stock up on non-perishable food and water to sustain them and their families for at least three days or longer; and

WHEREAS, the emergency supply kit should include important papers (e.g. insurance, identification), a first aid kit, prescription medicines and other specialty items including pet items for pet owners; and

WHEREAS, the state now has pet-friendly designated shelters so if pet owners must evacuate, they are encouraged to take their pets with them; and

WHEREAS, insurance companies suggest citizens review and update their homeowners insurance policy and make sure it includes coverage for accidental damage and natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, citizens should stay informed during a storm by keeping a battery powered radio for weather and evacuation information and should know their evacuation routes and comply with local and state authorities when asked to evacuate; and

WHEREAS, flooding claims lives every year, usually when motorists attempt to drive through flooded roadways, failing to heed the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Weather Service's slogan, "Turn Around, Don't Drown;" and

WHEREAS, citizens are encouraged to get involved by contacting their local Citizen Corps Council to learn what efforts their communities are taking to prepare for hurricane season, and learn how they can help; and

WHEREAS, through Citizen Corps programs, citizens can receive training in basic emergency response and find volunteer opportunities to assist first responders in an emergency; and

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service, the state Division of Emergency Management and local government officials all work together before and during a hurricane or tropical storm to reduce the dangers posed to lives and property and provide a quick, effective response to these storms; and

WHEREAS, the observance of Hurricane Preparedness Week by North Carolinians provides better protection from the dangers of hurricanes and tropical storms;

NOW THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL F. EASLEY, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the week of May 25-31, as "**HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEEK**" in North Carolina. I encourage all North Carolinians to participate in its observance by assembling their family preparedness kits and updating their emergency plans.




MICHAEL F. EASLEY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh, this 15th day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand and eight, and of the Independence of the United States the hundred and thirty-second.